

REMARKS

In response to the pending Office Action, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 4, 7, 9 and 10, and have amended claims 2, 5 and 6 so as to be in independent format. Claim 8 was amended to include all of the limitations of claim 9, which has been cancelled. As claims 2, 5, 6 and 9 were indicated to be allowable if amended in the foregoing manner, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Also, it is noted that Applicants have not submitted formal drawings incorporating the proposed changes to Figs. 1, 9 and 10 submitted in the Applicants' previous response due to the fact that it has not yet been acknowledged that the proposed drawing changes are acceptable. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner approve the proposed amendments to the figures. Upon approval, Applicants will submit formal drawings containing the revisions.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.


If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R.
1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the
filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and
please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: 7/25/03

By: 

Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W. , Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20005-3096
Telephone: 202-756-8000 MEF:men
Facsimile: 202-756-8087